

**Executive Host Information 2005  
Placement Week November 15-19, 2004**

Office Name: Office of Marine Conservation

Position Title: OMC Sea Grant Fellow

How many total staff are in your immediate office / branch? (Select one option, mark with X)

1-5	
6-10	
> 10	X

Have you previously hosted a Sea Grant fellow (Select one option, mark with X)

Yes	X
No	

If yes, how many?

If fellow is currently on assignment, please provide contact information.

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Does your office accept non-United States (foreign) citizens? (Select one option, mark with X)

Yes	
No	X

**Organizational Overview**

***Mission Statement:*** (Please limit to 30 words.)

The Office of Marine Conservation (OMC) is a part of the State Department's Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs (OES). The mission of OES is to coordinate U.S. Government agencies and departments in developing positions on international oceans, environment, science and health issues; to negotiate bilateral, regional and multilateral agreements that together establish the framework of an international environmental regime; and to develop targeted activities that ensure U.S. Government programs support foreign policy objectives.

***Brief Overview of Your Office's work:*** (Please limit to 150 words.)

The Office of Marine Conservation is responsible for formulating and implementing U.S. policy on a broad range of international issues concerning living marine resources. In executing this responsibility, the office negotiates bilateral and multilateral fisheries agreements, participates in international fisheries conservation and management organizations and arrangements, and represents the U.S. in a variety of other international fora associated with the conservation and management of living marine resources.

Do you have partnership projects, multi-agency workgroups, or working relationships with other offices? Please list.

OMC works closely with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), particularly the Office of Sustainable Fisheries and Office of Protected Resources, on a wide variety of international fisheries issues. OMC also works closely with the NMFS regional offices and science centers, particularly in the Northwest (Seattle), Southeast (St. Petersburg), Southwest (Long Beach and La Jolla), and Pacific Island Area (Honolulu) regions on a variety of issues, including U.S.-Canada and U.S.-Russia issues, Pacific tuna, tuna/dolphin interactions, and sea turtle issues.
OMC works closely with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on sea turtle and Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES) issues.
OMC also works closely with the U.S. Coast Guard on fisheries enforcement issues and consults with US Trade Representatives Office.
OMC works closely with other offices and Bureaus, particularly the geographic bureaus, within the Department of State.
OMC also works closely with members of Congress and a variety of non-governmental organizations, which represent the conservation and fisheries industry community.

**Assignment Description.**

*It is understood that the fellow's specific responsibilities will be tailored to his / her unique skills and interests. Please articulate probable assignments and duties and the education / professional development that these tasks will bring to the fellow.*

**During 2005, a Sea Grant Fellow serving in OES/OMC would provide professional support in a number of areas, including:**

- The Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Fisheries Working Group  
The United States has four main objectives of the Fisheries Working Group:
  - sustainable trade liberalization;
  - fostering of sustainable aquaculture to meet regional food security needs;
  - strengthening capacity for fisheries conservation and management by deterring destructive fishing practices; and
  - regional implementation of global fisheries agreements.
- implementation of international plans of action adopted by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (managing fishing capacity; reducing seabird bycatch in longline fisheries; managing sharks; deterring illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing activity; and the improvement of the status and trends of reporting) ;
- developing cooperative measures to reduce sea turtle bycatch in longline fisheries and other sea turtle related issues.
- assisting with fisheries related matters as they relate to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization and its Committee on Fisheries meeting;

**Depending on personal interests and the needs of the office, the Fellow could also be involved in other issues such as:**

- multilateral negotiations in conjunction with annual and intersessional meetings of regional fisheries organizations and arrangements, such as the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization, the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas, the Inter-American Tropical Tuna

Commission, the Donut Hole Pollock Convention, and cooperative measures to manage Queen conch in the Caribbean Sea region;

- bilateral meetings with Canada, the European Union, China, and Russia;
- fisheries issues as they relate to the work of the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development;
- coordinating positions on marine species with regard to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora and the Convention on Biological Diversity; and
- trade and environment issues, including eco-labeling, the role of subsidies, and the use of trade measures to achieve environmental objectives.

Estimated Fellow Travel, Out-of-Office: (Select one option, mark with X)

0 days / month	
1-3 days / month	
4-7 days / month	X
8-10 days / month	
> 2 weeks / month	

Estimated DC-Area Travel: (Select one option, mark with X)

0 days / month	X
1-3 days / month	
4-7 days / month	
8-10 days / month	
> 2 weeks / month	

Does this position require mandatory skills: (Select one option, mark with X)

Yes	
No	X

Desired Background Skills: Please list. (e.g. strong written / communication skills, knowledge of Microsoft PowerPoint software, etc.).

Interested fellows should have strong writing, communication and analytical skills, and particular interest in foreign affairs.
Work or educational experience in fisheries or marine conservation is useful, but not required.
Foreign language skill (esp. Russian, Japan, Spanish or Chinese) useful, but not required.

In 300 words or less, please describe the tasks, duties, or projects the fellow will undertake, the skills a fellow will gain, and the deliverables a fellow can expect to produce from completing these tasks.

Sample tasks, duties, or projects.

Reviewing and developing project proposals for submission to the APEC Fisheries Working Group on such issues as deep-sea fisheries, sea turtle conservation, and aquaculture.
Assisting with the implementation of approved APEC Fisheries Working Group projects, such as the development of a network of aquaculture centers in the Americas.
Developing memoranda, position and briefing papers, and other documents related to the international plan of action adopted by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization on combating illegal, unreported,

and unregulated fishing activities.
Participating on and providing professional support for the U.S. delegation to annual regional fisheries management organization meetings and other international fisheries meetings, such as the FAO Committee on Fisheries.
Developing memoranda, position and briefing papers, and other documents related to the development of cooperative measures to reduce sea turtle bycatch in longline fisheries and other sea turtle related issues.
Coordinating an interagency process, including organizing interagency working groups, relating to the development of U.S. policy on the above issues.

On-the-job skills a Fellow will gain from completing these tasks.

First hand experience representing the United States in international conferences, meetings and negotiations on oceans issues.
Detailed knowledge of the substance and process related to the formulation and implementation of US policy for the conservation and management of living marine resources at the international level, including coordination and management of an extensive interagency process.
Detailed knowledge of the organization and operation of global bodies (e.g., the United Nations or U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization), regional fisheries management organizations and other entities related to the conservation and management of living marine resources.
First hand experience in the operations of the Department of State including liaison and communication with foreign governments, embassies, members of Congress, representatives of non-governmental organizations and industry, and the public.
First hand experience in a high pressure policy environment including preparation of time critical official and diplomatic communications, briefing materials for senior Department officials and communications with other part of the Executive branch, Congress and the public.